

# The Counties

(Continued)

complete.

At Inglewood last week ground was broken for a new city reservoir at Weckham Way and Hargrave Street. It will have a capacity of 1,335,000 gallons of water. Entirely covered, the reservoir will be equipped with concrete sides backed with earthen banks.

Upland's ranchers gathered last fortnight at Alta Loma, discussed Upland's water problems. Prime among them was the problem of flood control. While ranchers were most concerned, business men and water experts also sat in on the discussion. Between them all, they launched a program to save the flood waters that sweep down the nearby canyons during the rainy winter months. Suggestion was made for a series of check dams across the mouth of the Cucamonga Canyon. State Extension Service Engineer J. L. Brown told the gathering this would be impracticable. Instead, Brown suggested a number of sinking walls over which the water could be spread. These would cause the water to sink into the land instead of running off as waste. Suggestion also was made that dams be built along the washes to prevent water racing away to the Santa Ana River.

La Habra's chief water trouble last week concerned water rates. Residents believe the present water rate too exorbitant. Early this week they will be given the chance to present claims before members of the State Railroad Commission, which will conduct a hearing at the La Habra City Hall. La Habra is served with water by the Orange County Water Company. Also does the Orange County Water Company supply a number of other smaller communities.

## Azusa's Trees

Azusa's City Planning Commission and City Council want to beautify Azusa's streets; they propose planting trees on all the city streets running north and south (authorized under the 1915 Tree Planting Act).

Property owners, less interested in arboriculture, last week filed a complaint in Superior Court against Azusa's Mayor A. J. Meier, City Treasurer and Tax Collector W. J. Holden, City Engineer Paul E. Kressly. They requested that the tree-planting project be declared invalid, declared that the proposed assessment of \$15 to a 50-foot lot was excessive, pointed out that this was the wrong time of the year for tree-planting.

Petitions of protest submitted to the City Council last month, said to contain signatures of 51 per cent of the implicated property owners, last week were pointed out to represent only 22 per cent of the owners.

This week the property owners' complaint will be heard in Superior Court, with City Attorney P. J. Tschanner defending the City of Azusa.

## Barton Park

So rapidly do Southern California communities grow that county park and recreation ground planners must act quickly to procure suitable lands.

Last week San Bernardino County Supervisors met with forest officials at Barton Flats in the San Bernardino mountains and made plans to utilize the 60,000 acres of mountain and forest lands in that vicinity as parks, camping and recreational grounds.

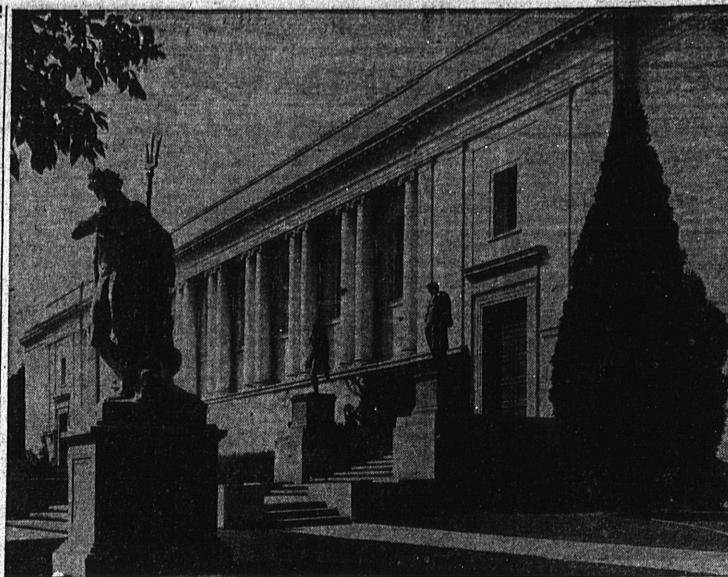
San Bernardino County holds 640 acres of the Barton Flats district by lease from the Federal Forest Service, of which about 40 acres have been improved with piped-in water and wells.

Those of the supervisors who last week visited the Flats for the first time expressed great amazement at seeing the vast timberlands so suitable for camping purposes and recreational activities, declared no other mountain area was so suitable or offering such possibilities for their purpose.

## Restricted Employment

In the City of San Diego, under the law, those who would be employed on public works jobs must of necessity be San Diego citizens. This was the decision three months ago of the City Council, in connection with new water development schemes.

Last week, former Councilman Don M. Stewart, in the Superior Court, sought to prevent the city from restricting such employment to its citizens. But Superior Judge Charles H. Haines upheld the



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city's demurrer, defeating the plans of Opposer Stewart. The court ruled that the city may require contractors to give preference to local labor, that it may reject all contracting bids on the projected water development work if the contractors refuse to employ San Diego labor. Stewart predicted that the ruling in this case would take \$200,000 from the \$2,100,000 water bonds lately voted on.

Superior Judge Haines was certain that the ruling did not infringe upon the constitutional rights of American citizens, because should a person wish employment on public works, he could easily become a resident of San Diego and thus comply with the law. But if the city should undertake to show who might not become residents, that would be another question, the judge declared.

## Races

### Educated Papooses

Red-skinned Indian papooses, grown to young boyhood and girlhood in the Middlewest, Southwest, learn to know only their own people intimately; have no contact with the white race, other than chance, casual meetings. Accentuating this condition, depriving the adolescent Indians of opportunities to meet paleface papooses, learn paleface ways and customs, are the all-Indian day schools and boarding schools maintained by the United States Department of Interior in reservation territories.

Last month, when hundreds of young Indians in California, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Montana, Washington, Oregon, Nebraska, returned to the schools especially maintained for them, ready to begin the new year's work, they were given questionnaires to fill out; asked to tell of their family environment, resources, where the nearest public school was, what sort it was, why they had not enrolled there. When a change can be effected, the Indian child has been denied admittance to the special institution; transferred to the public school.

Although this idea of closer contact via education has long been the guiding policy of the Department of the Interior, not until this year were strenuous attempts made to enforce it. To eliminate as much as possible the all-Indian school is Secretary of the Interior Wilbur's desire. Not only would joint education assist the youthful Indian in acclimating himself to the white world, but it would decrease the taxpayer's responsibility.

The education of Indian citizens is now under the direct guidance of the Department of the Interior. Soon, however, several states will be in a position to take over this problem themselves, financed, if necessary, by the Federal Government, which may be prevailed upon to pay the tuition of the destitute Indian child.

## Catastrophe

### Armless Aviator

Encino's Josephine Callaghan, armless from birth, known as champion horsewoman, wanted to ride through the skies as she had skinned over steep-chases. She sold all but a few of her thoroughbred hunters, bought an airplane; concentrated on learning to fly. Last August, Dyer Airport graduated her as a solo pilot, since then she had more than 200 solo hours in the air. Instructor Charles F. Dyer acclaimed her the best woman flyer he had ever seen.

But the United States Department of Commerce objected to granting Horsewoman Aviator Callaghan a private pilot's license; was afraid she would be unable to handle a plane with sufficient dexterity in an emergency.

Thus Mill Callaghan decided that she would fly to Washington, present her plea in person, pointing to her solo flight across the continent as sufficient justification for a license. A fortnight ago, she started out from Los Angeles, flying her own plane. Seven miles west of Abilene, Texas, her ship crashed to the ground, landed in a cotton field; its pilot was killed instantly.

### Cadet Killed

In preparation for graduation ceremonies this week, cadets of March Field Aviation School, at Riverside, spent last week practicing formation flying for presentation as part of the commencement program. Practising a three-ship formation were Cadets George Peddicord and Paul Balfour, still another student flyer. Flying in the Riverside field, the ships started to turn, to swing back over the field. But too die-like, too close were the planes of Cadets Peddicord and Balfour; their ships came together, wings locked.

Killed instantly was Cadet Peddicord when his parachute failed to open and he crashed to the ground. Student Balfour's parachute unfolded safely; he landed uninjured.

### Gasoline Explosion

Gasoline, a product of California oil wells, and hay, an agricultural crop, are both of great value. But when the first explodes, ignites the second, the result is usually catastrophic, often fatal.

Burnt to a crisp last week was Santa Monica's Jack Hill, while driving a party of six Bay residents south along the Oxnard-Santa Monica Highway. His car, owned by Venice's Roy T. Black, collided with the auxiliary gasoline tank under the cab of a truck loaded with 13 tons of hay.

The crash caused the gasoline to explode, ignite the hay, fire the

machine driven by Hill. His five companions, horrified, injured, extricated themselves from the wreck, attempted to go to the driver's rescue, were held off by the ravinous flames, the exploding gasoline.

When the flames had lessened, Hill's body—charred, scorched, consumed by fire—was taken from the wreckage.

Hill's companions were: Mr. and Mrs. Roy T. Black of Venice, Mr. and Mrs. Roy B. Cooper and Doris Herford of Santa Monica. In the truck were Pete Nucio and Frank Milani of Oxnard. The entire group was taken to the Oxnard Hospital for first aid; all left the same day, only Mrs. Black remaining.

## Religion

### High Holy Days

Now being observed by orthodox Jewry are the Jewish High Holy Days, which began last Friday night with the celebration of Rosh Hashana, or the New Year, and which will continue until next Monday, which is Yom Kippur, or the Day of Atonement.

Services of rejoicing that a new year had begun were held on Rosh Hashana; each Southland synagogue conducted a special celebration. Large congregations listened to the traditional ceremonies, sermons, addresses by prominent rabbis on religious and philosophical subjects.

On Yom Kippur, thousands of Southern California Jews will fast from sundown to sundown, will meditate on the past, will ponder on the future. No services will be conducted in the synagogues; organists and choirs will play sacred selections from early morning until twilight.

Most important in the Jewish faith are these High Holy Days. This year's religious rites will mark the 5690th time that orthodox Jews have assembled in observance of their New Year.

### Conclude Conference

Last week 400 Methodist ministers, 500 laymen, concluded their 54th annual Southern California conference at Long Beach's First Methodist Church, adjourned formally until next year. (See News Review, Sept. 23-28, et seq.)

Important decisions made: future conferences will take place at the Long Beach First Methodist Church, the proposal of having each meeting in a different city having been discarded; future conferences will take place during the last week in June, rather than late in September.

During the concluding sessions, final reports were heard; twelve elders, five deacons were ordained; one Ethel Ristine was consecrated deaconess; important appointments were made.

## Science

### Tremors, Quakes

Gods, angered, annoyed, exasperated by the stupidity of mankind, were wont to vent their ire by causing the earth to tremble, shudder, squirm. Such was the primitive explanation of earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, vibrations, undulations of the earth's crust.

Coincident with the destruction of these old superstitious beliefs, scientists have found geological explanations for these disturbances, have determined their causes, their varying characteristics, their results.

So expert have become scientists that they can, via seismology—the science of earthquake phenomena—determine in what regions earthquakes will be most prevalent, how important the disturbances of the future will be, to a meager extent when they will occur.

Last week seismologists, world-renowned, assembled at the seismological laboratory of Pasadena's California Institute of Technology for a two week's round-table conference; to study first-hand in this observation station earthquake phenomena; to investigate earth disturbances, prove or disprove hypotheses, propound theories.

Caltech's President Robert A. Millik was the only speaker at the opening session. He outlined the problems encountered in research work in seismology. Visiting scientists were shown through the laboratory, located in Annandale; supervised by Carnegie Seismologist H. O. Wood, who with Mr. Wilson's Dr. J. A. Anderson, inventor and perfected many instruments used in seismological investigation.

California men included in the small, carefully selected group of conferring seismologists were the University of California Dr. Perry Byerly; Mr. Wilson's Dr. J. A. Anderson, Sinclair Smith; Caltech's Dr. J. P. Buwalda, M. S. Shappell; Pasadena Seismological Laboratory's Dr. C. F. Richter; Annandale Laboratory's H. O. Wood.

### Sea Elephants

A fortnight ago San Diego zoologists, several zoologists from prominent scientists left San Diego for Guadalupe Islands. Their object: To obtain live sea elephants, other forms of marine life; to bring them back to the San Diego Zoological Gardens, study their habits, diseases. (See News Review, September 23-29).

Last week the sea elephant expedition returned to San Diego, docked. Swung from the U. S. Koka onto large trucks, while hundreds stared were four huge sea elephants, weighing from two to three tons each. The gigantic mammals were transported to the San Diego Zoo, were propelled into a large pool; previously cleaned, refilled, flavored with three tons of ocean salt.

The expedition was gone only three days. The Guadalupe Islands are approximately 200 miles south of San Diego, the only place in the world where the northern variety of sea elephants live. Because the herds are constantly growing smaller, they are under the protection of the Mexican government, from whom the zoologists obtained permission to secure several of the mammals for study purposes.

Once the giant oceanic elephants have become acclimated to their artificial home, scientists will start an intensive investigation of their life histories, habits, idiosyncrasies; will attempt to determine how they can be kept alive, how the herds can be kept from becoming extinct.

### Cornstalk Gas

Strange indeed are the results of chemical research. The latest finding of science is that cornstalks, hitherto considered waste, may now be used for the manufacture of gas for heating, lighting, power, carbon dioxide to put the "fizz" in soda water and pop, pulp for paper. This was announced last month at the American Chemical Society's convention in Minneapolis.

Ushering in a new method of economizing, an individual cornstalk gas plant small enough for the needs of the separate farmstead or a huge plant of city size can be developed. On the bacteria germs of fermentation and decay does the process depend.

A circle of corn field within an eight mile radius will yield enough stalks to keep a city of 50,000 supplied with gas, declares Professor C. M. Buswell of the University of Illinois.